

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human being for treating dermatitis, the method comprising administering an ingestible composition comprising L-carnitine, vitamin C, vitamin E, grape seed extract and cysteine, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from about 1 mg to about 1 g per kg of body weight and the amount of vitamin C administered daily is from about 0.025 mg to about 250 mg per kg of body weight.

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition increases the lipid secretion in the sebum and/or for producing a protective sebum layer on the skin.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the patient has ulcerative dermatitis.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A method for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human for preventing the onset or incidence of ulcers associated with diabetes, of circulation disturbances, of physical, chemical or microbial noxae or of eczema, the method comprising the steps of administering to a patient at risk of ulcers an ingestible composition comprising L-carnitine, vitamin C, vitamin E, grape seed extract and cysteine, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from about 1 mg to about 1 g per kg of body weight and the amount of vitamin C administered daily is from about 0.025 mg to about 250 mg per kg of body weight.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human being for a reduction of itching, the method comprising the

steps of administering to a patient that is itching due to a skin condition an ingestible composition comprising L-carnitine, vitamin C, vitamin E, grape seed extract and cysteine, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from about 1 mg to about 1 g per kg of body weight and the amount of vitamin C administered daily is from about 0.025 mg to about 250 mg per kg of body weight.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A method for making an ingestible composition for the stimulation of the lipid metabolism in the skin of an animal or a human being, the method comprising the step of using L-carnitine, vitamin C, vitamin E, grape seed extract and cysteine to make the composition, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from about 1 mg to about 1 g per kg of body weight and the amount of vitamin C administered daily is from about 0.025 mg to about 250 mg per kg of body weight.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method according to claim 6, for producing a protective sebum layer on the skin.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The method according to claim 6 for reducing dry skin or itching.

Claims 9-11 (canceled).

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~ingestable~~ ingestible composition contains a source of fat.

Claim 13 (previously presented): The method according to claim 12, wherein the fat comprises alpha-linolenic acid.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The method according to claim 12, wherein said source of fat is selected from the group consisting of an animal fat, a vegetable fat, and combinations thereof.

Claim 15 (previously presented): The method according to claim 12, wherein the amount of said source of fat in the composition is at least 0.1 % by weight on basis of the total weight of the composition.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~ingestable~~ ingestible composition is selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food, a dietary supplement, and combinations thereof.

Claim 17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (previously presented): An ingestible composition selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a functional food, a nutritional complete pet or human food, and a dietary supplement comprising L-carnitine, vitamin C, vitamin E, grape seed extract and cysteine, wherein the amount of L-carnitine administered daily is from about 1 mg to about 1 g per kg of body weight and the amount of vitamin C administered daily is from about 0.025 mg to about 250 mg per kg of body weight.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method according to claim 4, the ingestible composition further comprising a component exhibiting an anti-oxidative activity selected from the group consisting of: carotenoids; ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and ginsenosides and natural sources thereof; a source of thiols, preferably lipoic acid, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine, glutathione or natural sources thereof; and combinations thereof.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method according to claim 5, the ingestible composition further comprising a component exhibiting an anti-oxidative activity selected from the group consisting of: carotenoids; ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing

polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and gingenosides and natural sources thereof; a source of thiols, preferably lipoic acid, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine, glutathione or natural sources thereof; and combinations thereof.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The method according to claim 6, the method further comprising using an additional component to make the composition, the additional component exhibiting an anti-oxidative activity is selected from the group consisting of vitamin E; carotenoids; ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and gingenosides and natural sources thereof; a source of thiols, preferably lipoic acid, cysteine, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine, glutathione or natural sources thereof; and combinations thereof.

Claims 22-30 (canceled).

Claim 31 (currently amended): The method according to claim 4, wherein the ~~ingestable~~ ingestible composition contains a source of fat.

Claim 32 (currently amended): The method according to claim 5, wherein the ~~ingestable~~ ingestible composition contains a source of fat.

Claim 33 (currently amended): The method according to claim 6, wherein the ~~ingestable~~ ingestible composition contains a source of fat.

Claim 34 (canceled).

Claim 35 (currently amended): The method according to claim 4, wherein the ~~ingestable~~ ingestible composition is selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a

functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food, a dietary supplement, and combinations thereof.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The method according to claim 5, wherein the ~~ingestable~~ ingestible composition is selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food, a dietary supplement, and combinations thereof.

Claim 37 (currently amended): The method according to claim 6, wherein the ~~ingestable~~ ingestible composition is selected from the group consisting of a medicament, a food, a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food, a dietary supplement, and combinations thereof.

Claim 38 (canceled).

Claim 39 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, the ingestible composition further comprising a component having anti-oxidative activity selected from the group consisting of: carotenoids; ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones, phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and ginsenosides and natural sources thereof; a source of thiols, preferably lipoic acid, cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine, glutathione or natural sources thereof; and combinations thereof; said ~~ingestable~~ ingestible composition selected from the group consisting of a food or a functional food, a nutritionally complete pet or human food, a dietary supplement, and combinations thereof.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The ingestible composition according to claim 18, the composition further including a component having an anti-oxidative activity and being selected from the group consisting of ubiquinones; tea catechins; coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes; ginkgo biloba extracts; spice extracts; soy extracts containing isoflavones,

phytoestrogens; ursodeoxycholic acid; ursolic acid; ginseng and ginsenosides and natural sources thereof; cystine, methionine, S-adenosyl-methionine, taurine or natural sources thereof; and combinations thereof.